



TREAD LIGHTLY IN WINTER – SNOW FALLS GENTLY, BUT PEOPLE DON'T!

V Corps Safety Office release

Slips and falls are a major safety concern at any time of year, but winter is a season just designed for falling. But while snow falls gently, people don't.



When ice and rain and sleet and snow appear, expect all surfaces to be slippery. That includes everything from parking lots and steps to vehicle surfaces and ladders.

Wherever and whenever possible, clear any accumulated ice and snow from walking and work surfaces. Where

conditions permit, apply sand, salt, or other abrasives to aid traction.

Move slower and cautiously, with a lowered center of gravity. When walking on icy sidewalks or streets, keep your body position slightly forward and put your feet down flat, not on the heel. Take short steps.

Be sure your footwear fits the weather conditions as well as your feet. And be aware that cold boots or footwear with snow or ice caught on the soles may be more slippery when entering a warm location, especially where the floor is wet. Clean them carefully when you enter a building.

Be especially careful in entryways that may have had slush and snow tracked through them, and exposed work areas such as loading docks.

On a vehicle or other structure, maintain three points of contact as you move. Use stair and ladder railings, both inside and outside buildings and vehicles.

Be careful when crossing snowdrifts along a street or icy curbs. Oncoming traffic may not be able to stop in time if you slip and fall onto the street.

